

these beautiful young Americans rest in peace. I also continue to pray for those who have been wounded in this conflict. I wish them the very best as they recuperate from their injuries.

I hope that all of our brave young women and men serving abroad will return home safely. They deserve to be relieved soon. Many have been there much longer than they anticipated. Their families need them.

They face an extremely dangerous situation. Many say they are more fearful now than they were in the height of the war.

I agree with those who are calling for the peacekeeping troops to be an international force. That would ease the burden on our men and women in uniform and would also make them less of a target.

There is no reason that this shouldn't be done as soon as possible so that I and others do not have to come to the Senate floor for the purpose of delivering painful and heartbreaking eulogies.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

#### IN MEMORIAM OF EUGENE AUGUSTINE JENKINS, JR. OF MARYLAND

Mr. FRIST. Madam President, I would like to notice the passing this week of Eugene Augustine Jenkins, Jr. of Maryland, a loyal Senate staff member and legal counsel to several senators over the course of almost four decades. Gene Jenkins came to the Senate in 1953 after serving in the Air Force as an Assistant Judge Advocate General from 1951 to 1953, and after receiving bachelor and law degrees from Georgetown University. He worked for Senators J. Glenn Beall and Charles McC. Mathias of Maryland, Senator Winston Prouty of Vermont and Senator Roman Hruska of Nebraska.

During his long years of service, Gene Jenkins garnered a reputation not only as a fine lawyer but also as the most meticulous historian and archivist that a Senator could hire to prepare their historical records and papers. A Senator who hired Gene Jenkins would have to hid the fact by hiding Jenkins' office because Jenkins' reputation was so well known that if a Senator had hired him, it clearly signaled that the Senator was about to retire.

A member of the family that once owned Jenkins Hill, which we now call Capitol Hill, Gene Jenkins not only served the Senate modestly but he was a public servant and good citizen in the truest sense, dedicating himself to numerous voluntary organizations, including his beloved Society of the Cincinnati and the Stewards of Georgetown. He was devoted to his church and volunteered for many years with Mother Theresa's Sisters of Charity. He will be buried this coming Monday at St. Joseph' Parish in southern Maryland, one of the oldest Roman Catholic

churches in North America, near his family home in Pomfret where the Jenkins family has been buried for generations—a final resting place befitting a historian. May he rest in peace.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, earlier this week, I voted in favor of invoking cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 11, the Patients First Act of 2003. My vote was not an endorsement of S. 11 as it was introduced in the Senate. In fact, I have concerns about various aspects of the bill—including the \$250,000 cap on noneconomic damages—and I anticipate supporting amendments to S. 11 if the Senate has an opportunity to fully debate this legislation.

However, I do believe that reform of the medical liability system should be part of a comprehensive response to surging medical malpractice premiums that endanger Americans' access to quality medical care by causing doctors to leave certain communities or cease practicing medicine altogether. For this reason, I voted for cloture on S. 11 in an effort to move the debate forward.

I commend Senator FEINSTEIN of California for working with the majority leader to craft a bipartisan proposal for reform, and I am hopeful that they will revive their discussions in the near future.

#### SYRIA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I wish to discuss S. 982, the Syria Accountability Act. Senator SANTORUM and I introduced this legislation on May 1. In just over 2 months, this bill has received 63 cosponsors.

After discussing this issue with Senator LUGAR, the chairman of the Senator Foreign Relations Committee, Senator SANTORUM and I have decided against offering this legislation as an amendment to the State Department authorization bill.

Senator LUGAR has agreed to hold a hearing in his committee on the issue of Syria in the near future. I am very grateful for his cooperation. The Syria Accountability Act would expand U.S. diplomatic and economic sanctions against Syria unless a certification can be made that Syria no longer supports terrorism, has withdrawn from Lebanon, and has ended its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

The legislation does not in any way advocate the use of force against Syria. The goal is to give the President and the Secretary of State the ability to exert economic and political leverage on Syria because of the serious policy concerns we have with the Syrian government.

It is well known that terrorist organizations like Hizballah, Hamas, and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine maintain offices, training camps, and other facilities on Syrian territory and in areas of Lebanon occu-

pied by the Syrian armed forces. This bill addresses this issue by confronting the Government of Syria in a diplomatic way that shows the seriousness of our concerns.

The Syria Accountability Act of 2003 would impose various sanctions on Syria, including a prohibition on the export of defense and dual-use items. In addition, the act requires the President to impose two or more of the following sanctions: 1, prohibiting the export of products of the U.S. other than food and medicine to Syria, 2, prohibiting U.S. businesses from investing or operating in Syria, 3, restricting Syrian diplomats in Washington, DC and at the United Nations to travel only within a 25-mile radius of Washington, DC or the United Nations, respectively, 4, reducing U.S. diplomatic contacts with Syria, and 5, blocking transactions in any property in which the Government of Syria has any interest.

The President is authorized to waive any or all of these five sanctions if it is in the national security interest of the United States. It is imperative that we hold all nations that are responsible for the proliferation of international terrorism and regional instability in the Middle East fully accountable for their actions. If we do not, the credibility of our antiterrorism efforts diminishes, along with our chances for victory over terrorism and for truly positive change in the Middle East. I thank the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee for his assistance.

#### HONORING OUR VIETNAM VETERANS ON JULY FOURTH

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize and applaud VFW Post 2164 of Wheaton, IL for sponsoring the Moving Wall in Wheaton during its Independence Day celebrations from June 30 to July 6 this year. I had the honor of marching in the Wheaton July 4th parade last Friday and viewing the Moving Wall. I was especially impressed by the community's tribute to fallen Vietnam veterans that was delivered at the parade reviewing stand.

The Moving Wall is a half-sized replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial here in Washington. The Memorial was dedicated in 1982 in honor of the men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States who served in the Vietnam War. The black granite wall, engraved with the names of those who gave their lives and those who remain missing, serves as a somber reminder of the costs of war in American lives and treasure.

The idea of a moving wall was conceived by Vietnam veteran John Devitt while attending the Vietnam Veterans Memorial dedication in 1982. Devitt's idea was deeply personal. He had been out of work when the wall was dedicated and had made the trip with financial help from family and friends. "There were millions of people who would never be able to come to Washington," he later explained: "I wanted